0159 '00 MAY -4 AIG:31

Ms. Jane Henney, MD Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms Henney;

I've been told that another effort is afoot to require a medical examination and hearing test before purchaing a hearing aid. I'd like to register my objections.

When I was finally able to obtain dentures from a denturist, after wearing dentures for years, I had to pay for an oral examination by a medical doctor to get an OK. For dentures! Thank God that's no longer necessary.

I have had umpteen ear examinations and have worn a hearing aid for longer than I care to remember. I know the extent of my hearing loss. I see a medical doctor regularly for other things. I don't want to have to pay through the nose for another hearing test to be told that I can't hear well. Neither do I wish to pay triple from a local company. I've been buying hearing aids through the mail for a great many years. I can tell when one works well and when it doesn't.

I do hope that I don't have to go through all that again. And again. Audiologists would have you believe that only they can tell how well I can hear and whether my ears show signs of needing medical attention. I assure you that I am well aware of both of those things.

Please don't succumb to their efforts to rip me off.

Sincerely,

John M. Jomlin

John V. Tomlin

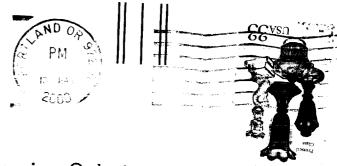
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**EXCEL** Hearing Solutions

105 N First Street - FDA Survey PO Box 586 DeKalb, IL 60115-0586

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